

RARITAN VALLEY ARTS ASSOCIATION est. 1939

January 2002 NEWSLETTER

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Snowflakey Greetings!

We hope you all had a terrific holiday season! With lots of festivities and few fevers...RVAA had a terrific November meeting with Sylvia Glesmann doing a watercolor/gouache demo. She inspired your editor so much I asked Santa for (and received) a set of gouache paints. With Sylvia gouache is fun!

RVAA has something very different for you January 28th, 7:15 pm at the Somerset County Library (meeting changed because of Martin Luther King Day). I'll be bringing in some African batiks, small sculptures, etc. plus framed photos of Kenya and Tanzanian animals, and some paintings I've done. This will go along with the videos I took last February when I spent three weeks on safari. I love Africa! And I'm really thankful to have my videos edited down to what I think is a thrilling tale I'd like to share with you. So if you like animals or are curious about Kenya and Tanzania, please do come! If you've an animal/African-interested pal, feel free to bring him/her. Kathy Blair, Angela Ferenback, and Maureen Slater will be our Refreshment Ladies that night--thank you! (please note: we're starting at 7:15 so we can fit everything in, business part of meeting and all).

Thank you again to Linda McCausland for wonderfully running our show at the 1860 House in Montgomery, which recently closed, and also to Linda who has very kindly volunteered to copy, address, and mail our Newsletters. We've been fortunate to have Don Nathen do this for some time, but he now moves on to a warmer clime, and Linda will do this--so if your address changes, you really should let her know at 908/221-1781.

Thank you also to Nona Rutter for presenting our annual Holiday Dinner at McCarthy's Restaurant. We all had a great time eating and socializing, and Nona presided over the "White Elephant" gift exchange. Linda Arnold thanked chairpersons with RVAA stocking ornaments; Ruth Wilson, Eleanor DeMott, and Diana Patton did Christmas "readings". We had a large group of revelers and it was FUN!

Research is continuing on choosing the art videos for the John Spitzmiller Memorial Art Library. President Linda Arnold welcomes more suggestions/input

at our January meeting (the 28th!). She would also welcome a volunteer librarian for the videos RVAA purchases. RVAA really needs volunteers--as in Refreshment Chairperson so Linda doesn't have to tote the coffeepot everywhere--and we desperately need an Exhibition Chairperson for judged shows (I'll continue on as the Holiday Sale Library Show Chair). Please!

Re our Holiday Show at the Somerset County Library, Treasurer Marian Cornwall and I are finalizing figures, with detailed results to come in the next Newsletter. However, the show went well, with about \$1,300. coming in. My thanks to all the artists who each show sat about 8 hours--and to rack sharers Linda Arnold, Doug Axmann, (and myself)20 artists participated! Marian will be mailing out the checks and 10% will go to the library.

Local exhibits you might be interested in, include "David Raymond (1926-2001) A Retrospective" at the 1860 House, Montgomery Cultural Center, up until February 10th. Nationally known and respected, Raymond's large vibrant acrylic abstracts have received much critical acclaim (show in the same galleries in the same lovely mansion RVAA had their show). Meanwhile, in addition to its regular works, the Art Museum, Princeton University, has several special exhibits, including "Seeing Double: Copies and Copying in the Arts of China" through 2/10 and "Klinger to Kollwitz: German Art in the Age of Expressionism" 1/29--6/9.

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

LINDA ARNOLD currently has a one-woman show of fifteen paintings at the Romo Bookstore in Far Hills.

RUTH WILSON currently has an exhibition of "en plein air" sketches in pen/ink, watercolors, and pastels, executed in France and other locations, in the Somerset County Library. Her September workshop at the Keystone Mountain Park near Eagles Mere, was a big success and she is now booking for Sept. 2002 (526-9048). Ruth taught watercolor at Somerset Art Association in October and was in the "Art for Freedom" Exhibit in November. Ruth also received the "Liquitex Award at the Festival of Arts presented by the Bald Eagles Art League and then exhibited at the B & S Gallery, all in Williamsport, PA.

SONJA WEIR had paintings accepted into the juried National Competition "The Little Picture Show" (miniatures) Custer City Art Show, Miles City, Montana, November 18th through December 22nd, 2001.

So! Please mail me cards and notes with YOUR news! Happy New Year!